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rest, or the velocity of light infinite, but it remains affected by the aberration due to a velocity parallel to the minor axis of the Earth's orbit.

A, $i$ have a resultant in the plane of the ecliptic, and therefore $i = \frac{2}{5}$ A, nearly ; also A, $i$ vanish at the solstices, while B vanishes at the equinoxes.

In connection with the uncorrected portion of the aberration, it may be further remarked that a planet is completely corrected for aberration by antedating the observation, so that there is a discordance of $\frac{1}{3}''$ in the method of treating the two classes of bodies.

## *Partial Eclipse of the Sun*, 1900 *May* 28, *observed at Col. Cooper's Observatory, Markree.* By F. W. Henkel, B.A.

The weather being very fine here, the progress of the eclipse was watched under favourable circumstances.

The maximum obscuration was at about 3.45 P.M. G.M.T., and magnitude of eclipse ·7.

The last contact took place at $4^h\ 49^m\ 25^s$ G.M.T. There was a slight falling off of light observable during the time of greatest obscuration.

The sunshine record for this date gives a graphic picture of the eclipse (or rather the uneclipsed portion of the Sun), shown by the narrowing down of the trace and its subsequent widening again during the progress of the phenomenon. The Merz "Comet Seeker," with dark glasses, was the instrument used to watch the eclipse.

## *Discovery and Observations of Comet Brooks* (*b* 1900).

### By W. R. Brooks, M.A., D.Sc.

While engaged in sweeping the eastern heavens with the 10¼-inch refractor on the early morning of July 23, I discovered a new, bright, telescopic comet in *Aries*. Its position was as follows : July 23, $13^h$, Eastern standard time ; R.A., $2^h\ 43^m\ 40^s$ ; declination north, 12° 30′. The motion was rapid, about 3° daily, and almost due north. The comet had a bright stellar nucleus and a tail. It was really a very beautiful telescopic object, resembling a great naked eye comet in miniature.

In drawing fig. 1 I show its normal appearance shortly after discovery, which was maintained with very slight variation until the full moon interfered with the almost continuous obser-

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vations at this observatory. There was noted, however, one remarkable exception. On July 26, at $13^h\ 25^m$, two branching wisps or streamers were seen issuing from either side of the coma, and making an angle of about thirty degrees with the principal tail. The northern streamer was the more prominent of the two.

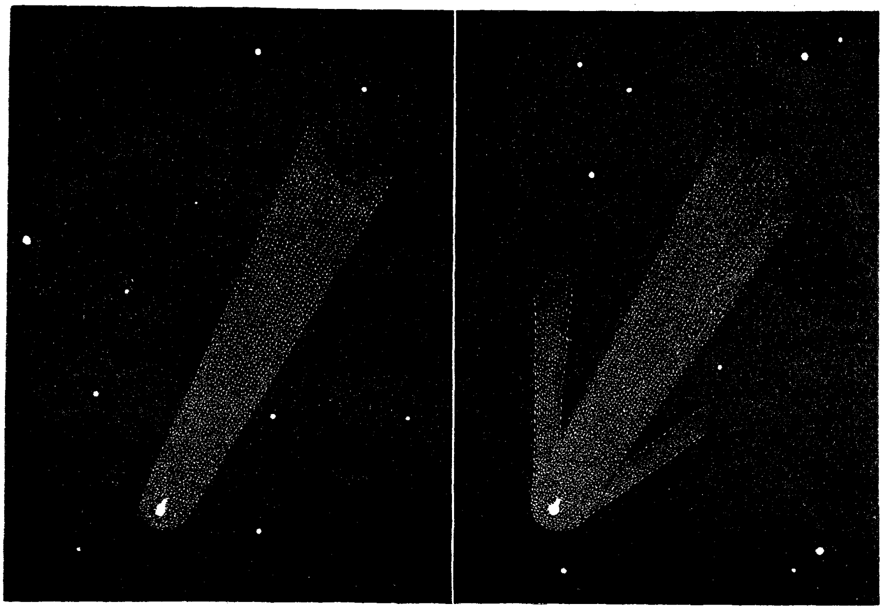

FIG. 1. FIG. 2.

Two hours later, or at $15^h\ 30^m$, on the same morning I could not detect the branching tails. The approximate position of the comet at this time was R.A. $2^h\ 46^m\ 35^s + 21°\ 16'$. On the following morning these streamers could not be seen, neither have I been able to detect them upon any subsequent occasion. The nucleus of the comet, which was remarkably sharp and well-defined, has always appeared elongated or pear-shaped. It has much resembled an unequal double star with the discs in contact. On two occasions it seemed possible to separate the nucleus with a sufficiently high power, but I was unable to do this with a magnifying power of 500 diameters.

On August 1 the comet was seen in the same low-power field with *Algol*.

My latest observation of the comet was last evening, August 8, when it was seen without difficulty in the presence of a nearly full Moon, and in R.A. $2^h\ 55^m\ 35^s + 59°\ 7'$. The comet is, therefore, now circumpolar, in *Camelopardalis*, and promises to be visible in moderate apertures for some time to come.

*Smith Observatory, Geneva, N.Y., U.S.A.:*
1900 *August* 9.

P.S.—Since the foregoing was written, it is learned from the *Ast. Nach.*, No. 3653, that the comet was independently dis-

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covered by Borrelly the same morning. It is an interesting fact that although the difference in longitude of the two stations is about five hours, the Harvard cablegram announcing my discovery reached Kiel two hours before Borrelly's.

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## *Nebulæ Discovered at the Chamberlin Observatory, University Park, Colorado.* By Herbert A. Howe.

(*Communicated by the Secretaries.*)

During the twelve months ending 1900 June 30, the following nebulæ, supposed to be new, have been noted. The positions of all except one have been micrometrically measured, and are given for 1900·0. All owe their discovery to their proximity to known nebulæ, the places of which were being measured. In the "Descriptions" and "Notes" numbers enclosed in brackets refer to the Index Catalogue; others are the current ones of the N.G.C.

| No. | Date. | R.A. h | m | s | Dec. ° | ′ | Descriptions |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1899.<br>Nov. 6 | 0 | 30 | 28 | − 3 | 25·7 | eF, vS, in field with 161. |
| 2 | 1900.<br>Jan. 1 | 1 | 18 | 57 | − 2 | 10 6 | eF, vS, possibly only a faint star. |
| 3 | Jan. 19 | 1 | 19 | 46 | − 2 | 8·3 | eF, eS; 530 is n.p. |
| 4 | Jan. 1 | 1 | 47 | 8 | −17 | 16·9 | eF, eS. |
| 5 | Jan. 1 | 1 | 48 | 11 | −17 | 9·7 | eF, eS. |
| 6 | 1899.<br>Nov. 24 | 1 | 52 | 4 | −17 | 1·7 | F, eS. |
| 7 | 1900.<br>Jan. 30 | 2 | 38 | 58 | −16 | 7·7 | vS, vF, mbM; near 1081. |
| 8 | Jan. 23 | 2 | 43 | 20 | −14 | 24·6 | eF, vS; near 1103. |
| 9 | Jan. 31 | 2 | 50 | 11 | −16 | 3·5 | vF, eS; almost stellar. |
| 10 | Jan. 30 | 3 | 1 | 38 | −10 | 6·9 | eF, S. |
| 11 | Jan. 22 | 3 | 4 | 1 | −23 | 26·3 | vF, L; near 1230. |
| 12 | Jan. 24 | 3 | 5 | 57 | −11 | 10·6 | eF, vS; near 1238. |
| 13 | Jan. 19 | 3 | 34 | 27 | −15 | 49·6 | eF, eS, v diffic.; near 1405. |
| 14 | Jan. 20 | 4 | 9 | 57 | −13 | 25·5 | eF, eS, almost stellar; near 1538. |
| 15 | Jan. 20 | 4 | 10 | 17 | −13 | 26·5 | eF, eS, diffic.; near 1538. |
| 16 | Jan. 31 | 4 | 27 | 25 ± | − 5 | 58 ± | eF, vS; f 1594, 90$^{s}$ ±, 3′n. |
| 17 | Jan. 22 | 5 | 48 | 12 | −17 | 48·5 | eF, pS; near (438). |
| 18 | Apr. 19 | 10 | 58 | 56 | −19 | 33·3 | vF, vS. |
| 19 | June 29 | 13 | 1 | 16 | +54 | 13·2 | vF, vS. |
| 20 | June 21 | 13 | 43 | 24 | −29 | 47·8 | F, cS, bM. |
| 21 | 1899.<br>Sept. 11 | 18 | 12 | 41 | +61 | 7·6 | eF, eS, v diffic.; near 6617. |
| 22 | Nov. 25 | 23 | 19 | 47 | +13 | 26·8 | eF, eS; near 7651. |
| 23 | Nov. 27 | 23 | 33 | 27 | +26 | 25·9 | eF, eS; near 7720. |
| 24 | Nov. 27 | 23 | 33 | 38 | +26 | 27·4 | eF, eS; near 7720. |